

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed on November 21, 2003. In the Office Action, the Examiner notes that the reference numerals of the specification do not correspond to the reference numerals of the drawings. Proposed drawings are submitted herewith which contain reference numerals that correspond to the reference numerals of the specification. Specifically, the proposed drawings include reference numerals which have been added or changed to correspond to the reference numerals of the specification.

The specification has also been amended such that several of the reference numerals of the proposed drawings correspond to the reference numerals of the specification and to correctly describe the type of views illustrated by the proposed drawings. The Examiner is respectfully requested to approve the proposed drawings and the amendments to the specification. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added to either the proposed drawings or the specification.

Additionally, in the Office Action, the Examiner requires Applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Specifically, the Examiner requires Applicant to elect one of the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:


- a) Figures 1-4,
- b) Figures 5-7.

Applicant elects with traverse the species of Figures 1-4 for prosecution on the merits. The listing of claims which are readable on the species of Figures 1-4 are Claims 1-16 and 18.

Applicant maintains the right to prosecute the subject matter of dependent Claim 17 in one or more separate applications if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's undersigned attorney at (631) 501-5706.

Respectfully submitted,


George Likourezos
Reg. No. 40,067
Attorney for Applicant

Send Correspondence To:

Mark Farber, Esq.
Tyco Healthcare Group LP
150 Glover Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06856
631-501-5706
FAX: 631-501-3526